



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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HEROIN SMUGGLER SENTENCED TO 120 MONTHS IN PRISON

PHOENIX – Gabriel Escobar-Castillo, 31, of Yuma, Arizona, was sentenced to 120 months in prison Monday by U.S. District Judge Neil V. Wake. Escobar pled guilty in September to the charge of importing one kilogram or more of heroin from Mexico into the United States of America.

Mr. Escobar-Castillo was arrested August 3, 2006 at the San Luis Port of Entry after inspectors at the port discovered that he had over one kilogram of heroin with him when he applied for admission into the United States. The inspectors noticed that the soles of Escobar-Castillo's shoes were unusually thick and subsequently found one package containing a tar-like substance in each insole. Laboratory tests later confirmed that the substance in Escobar-Castillo's shoes was heroin.

The investigation in this case was conducted by United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the prosecution of the case was handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy Andrews, District of Arizona, Yuma Branch Office.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-841-PHX-NVW
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